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COUNTRY	Austria	REPORT NO.	
TOPIC	Plenary Session of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria on 17 October 1949		
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1. [redacted] received the following information on a plenary session of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria (KPOe) held on 17 October 1949:

a. Delegates from all federal states attended the session. In addition to the Viennese members of the Central Committee of the KPOe, those present included the following:

Willy SCHOLZ, editor of the Styrian newspaper Wahrheit,
 Aim UNGAR,
 Willy FRISCHAUER,
 Hans GRUEHM,
 Franz TEST,
 Malte SCHORR,
 FRISCHMANN of Upper Austria,
 LEITNER of Salzburg,
 SCHNEIDER of Burgenland,
 Fritz BICKEL of Vorarlberg.

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b. HEEMANN, who delivered the first speech, severely attacked ZUCKER-SCHILLING, chief editor of the main COMMUNIST newspaper Die Volksstimme and "ritz GLAUBAUER. He accused them of inadequate utilization of election funds. The election fund at the disposal of the Communist Party amounted to 2.2 million schillings in cash. The sum of 1.6 million schillings was squandered at the Globus publishing house in the first two weeks of the election campaign. GLAUBAUER and ZUCKER-SCHILLING were responsible.

c. In addition to another half million schillings which had to be borrowed, a total of 2.7 million schillings was spent for propaganda purposes. ZUCKER-SCHILLING is to be made responsible for mistakes of the provincial Communist press and GLAUBAUER for the inadequate utilization of funds spent for the production of printed and propaganda matter. Friedl FULNBURG, general secretary of the KPOe, stated that deterioration of the economic situation in Austria is imminent. This would be advantageous for Communist action. The most important task of the party is the further implementation of the enterprise organizations which should support the extra-parliamentary campaigns of the KPOe.

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d. The next speech was delivered by Erwin ZUCKER-SCHILLING. He explained the failure in the election as being caused by deficiencies of the Communist enterprise organizations. Gottlieb FIALA, Communist deputy chairman of the Austrian Labor Union, should be held responsible. Willy SCHOLZ and the leading Styrian Communists were severely criticized in the course of the discussion. A change in the provincial headquarters of Upper Austria (Frank HAIDER and Peter KAMMERSTAETTER, provincial secretary) and of Salzburg (Franz STRASSER, Fritz LETTNER, Agnes PRIMOSIC, provincial secretary) was demanded. Malte SCHORK stated in a private discussion that the party has incurred great financial difficulties as the USIA does not distribute enough cash.

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